MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know whether the Chackai-Tampanur Railway extension was commenced without fixing the terms on which the work was to be conducted?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes; that is to say, the work was commenced with the idea that it would form part of the main line; but I cannot now recollect what happened.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): So, are we to understand that this Rs. 27 lakhs odd of Government money was spent without any idea as to the exact terms on which this work will have to be conducted?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): This work was taken up because it was necessary for our purpose. As to the terms, even if the worst comes, it will only be that we will have to meet any loss incurred on that line.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is this the way that Government enter into all such capital undertakings?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

Transfer of Mr. S. Nilakanta Aiyar, Second Judge, Parur.

33*. **MR. K. MAHOMED** (*Alwaye*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when Mr. S. Nilakanta Aiyar, B. A., B. L., was relieved of his duties as Second Judge, Parur District Court;

(*b*) when his successor was appointed; and

(*c*) for how long after Mr. S. Nilakanta Aiyar was relieved, the second bench in the Parur District Court was left without a Judge?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) (*a*) Mr. S. Nilakanta Aiyar, B. A., B. L., Temporary Second Judge, Parur, handed over charge of his duties on the forenoon of the 32nd Edavam 1108, to proceed on privilege leave.

(*b*) Mr. J. Eapen, B. A., B. L., District Munsiff, Kanjirapalli, was appointed Temporary Second Judge, *vice* Mr. Nilakanta Aiyar and he joined duty at Parur on the 26th Mithunam 1108.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know the reason for such a delay in appointing a Second Judge?

MR K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): To some extent the delay was due to the fact that the officer had to be given joining time; and part of the delay was also due to the fact that there was some correspondence between the High Court and the Government.

Abolition of taxation in kind etc., in the Edapalli Edavaka.

34*. **MR. K. MAHOMED** (*Alwaye*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any correspondence in connection with the Dewan's visit to Edapalli to appoint a Committee to settle the question of the abolition of taxation in kind and other hardships felt by the people;

(*b*) if so, what is the decision arrived at; and

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(*c*) whether the Government propose to appoint a committee for the purpose?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), this does not arise.

(*c*) No.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): Is the member aware of a D. O. dated 23rd April 1932 from the Edapalli Chief?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): Have the Government replied to it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know whether the Government are prepared to take any necessary steps with regard to it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have done as much as they could, and they do not propose to take any further action in the matter at present.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): Section 2 of Regulation V of 1068 says that owners of land in Edapalli and Kilimanur "shall have the same rights and privileges in respect of their holdings as the holders of land under Our Government." Does not this Regulation apply also to us who are under the Edapalli Chief?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Rent Recovery Regulation referred to by the member does apply to the Edapalli Edavagai.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): Are we not entitled to have the same rights and privileges that are enjoyed by the subjects of His Highness the Maha Raja of Travancore?

PRESIDENT: These questions do not arise on your original question.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Have the Government any control over this matter?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise either.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know then why the Dewan did not visit Edapalli and consider this question?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He visited the place.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know then why the Dewan visited the place?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Because certain grievances were represented to him.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know whether he visits all places wherefrom grievances are represented to him?

PRESIDENT: That is a general question which does not arise on this particular question.

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MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : May I know whether Government are in any way benefited by the revenue from the lands of the Chief ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : If it comes in the shape of cash into the coffers of the State, then the Government are benefited. Revenue from the Chief, if any, is as much revenue as from other sources.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : Does the member say that the Government directly collect the revenue, or is it the privilege of the Edapalli Chief to collect the revenue ?

PRESIDENT : I do not think this arises any more than the other questions.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know from the Government whether they have received any representation from the land-holders under the Edapalli Chief to the effect that they are put to severe hardships by the way in which the taxes are collected ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes, Government have received a few representations to that effect.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know whether Government have taken any action on that representation ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : They have taken a lot of action.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Am I to take it that those grievances have been redressed ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The Chief says that the holders of land under him pay tax in money at the market rate.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Have the Government any control in fixing the market rate for the Edavagai ?

PRESIDENT : You cannot go into details.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know from the member whether the Iroverthicars who collect tax from the lands under the Chief are appointed by the Chief himself or by the Government ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Not by the Government.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Have the Government any control in the matter of appointing such officers ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No.

PRESIDENT : You cannot go into a detailed discussion on this question.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : It was stated by the Chief Secretary that the Government have done all that could be done. I wish to know what has been done.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : A letter was sent to the Chief detailing the trouble and inconvenience caused to the Edavagai tenants on account of the collection of taxes in kind and the

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[Mr. K. George.]

heavy arrears in *pokkuvaravu* cases. The Chief was asked to go into the matter and inform Government what steps he had taken to alleviate the hardships of the tenants. After protracted correspondence, the Chief wrote to say that the tax was collected in money at the prevailing *nirak* rate and that if any other steps were taken that would be highly prejudicial to his interests.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Were not other points also raised in the letter addressed to the Chief?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I mentioned other points also.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): What was the reply of the Chief in regard to them?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Chief replied that the delay was due to the fact that copies of documents relating to registry in the Edavagai were not being received by the Swaroopam direct, but that that was being done now. A special staff has been appointed for clearing up the arrears, and it is expected that the work would be completed in about six months.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Was it not represented that the commutation rate for the tax in the Edavagai should be the same as the rate for the Government tax?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Chief has stated that that will be prejudicial to his interests.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Are the Government satisfied that that is a sufficient answer?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Chief has his own interests; he has to maintain his Swaroopam and various temples. So his interests have to be considered.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Not the interests of the subjects?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The subjects pay tax at the prevailing rate.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Was there any time at which the Chief collected the taxes at a higher rate than the market price?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Was it represented that the Edavagai people represented to the Chief that they would give lands for constructing roads?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say; they might have.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): In regard to roads, was it not possible to get land to construct roads?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It might have been possible.

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MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I know whether the conversion from kind to coin was decided upon by the Chief before the Dewan's visit or after the Dewan's visit ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I think that is the practice there. The Chief has a right to collect tax only in money if a tenant does not pay him in kind when the taxes fall due.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Does the Chief collect the tax only in coin ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : He collects tax in cash as well as in kind.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Formerly, was he collecting the tax in money or in kind ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : He was collecting partly in cash and partly in kind.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Will the Chief Secretary specify the authority under which the Government thought of addressing the Chief in matters relating to the Chief and his tenants ?

PRESIDENT : That question does not arise.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : I asked that question with the purpose of ascertaining how far the Government may interfere or whether the Government have got any authority in interfering in the affairs of the Chief.

Supply of water in the Rajakamangalam Village.

35. ***MR. R. SIVASUBRAHMANYA NADAR** (*Agastiswaram*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have received any memorial or resolution from the villagers of Rajakamangalam for the supply of good drinking water ;

(*b*) whether the place was inspected by any officer of the Sanitary Department ; and

(*c*) if so, the nature of the report submitted by the Sanitary Department regarding the same and the action taken by the Government thereafter ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Definite proposals for a suitable scheme of water-supply for the village have been called for, by the Chief Engineer, from the Division officer, Nagercoil, at the instance of the Sanitary Commissioner. An estimate for the acquisition of land has been sanctioned and the Land Revenue Commissioner has been asked to take steps to acquire the lands.

MR. R. SIVASUBRAHMANYA NADAR (*Agastiswaram*): அடுத்த பட்ஜெட்டில் இதற்காக ஏதாவது புரவிஷன் உண்டா?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): There is no provision in the Budget next year. We must acquire lands first.

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